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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD CARE WORKERS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a strong child care  
2 and early education workforce is necessary to support Hawaii's  
3 children, working families, and communities. The demand for  
4 quality child care and early education far exceeds the number of  
5 qualified child care and early education professionals currently  
6 available in the State, hindering efforts to maintain and expand  
7 quality, affordable child care and early education programs.

8           The purpose of this Act is to establish, administer, and  
9 appropriate funds for a two-year child care worker subsidy pilot  
10 program to retain the existing early child care workforce in  
11 licensed infant and toddler centers.

12           SECTION 2. (a) The department of human services shall  
13 establish and administer a two-year infant and toddler child  
14 care worker subsidy pilot program to retain the existing early  
15 child care workforce in licensed infant and toddler centers.

16           (b) The department of human services shall establish  
17 standards and qualifications for participation in the pilot



1 program established in subsection (a); provided that  
2 participation shall be:

3 (1) Available to all lead caregivers, caregivers, and  
4 child care aides working in licensed infant and  
5 toddler centers;

6 (2) Prohibited to child care workers employed by the  
7 department of education, state public charter school  
8 commission, or an Early Head Start provider; and

9 (3) Limited to child care workers working in licensed  
10 infant and toddler centers.

11 (c) The department of human services shall establish best  
12 practices to establish a minimum wage of \$16.00 per hour for all  
13 pilot program participants.

14 (d) The department of human services may convene and  
15 consult community members to establish best practices, policies,  
16 and procedures regarding administering the pilot program,  
17 including but not limited to the development of salary schedules  
18 and educational requirements.

19 (e) The department of human services shall submit annual  
20 reports on the development and administration of the pilot  
21 program established in subsection (a), including impacts to



1 infant and toddler child care center operators and staff, and  
2 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than  
3 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of  
4 2024, 2025, and 2026.

5 (f) The department of human services shall submit a final  
6 report on the pilot program established in subsection (a),  
7 including impacts to infant and toddler child care center  
8 operators and staff, and any proposed legislation, to the  
9 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
10 the regular session of 2027.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
14 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
15 year 2024-2025 for the infant and toddler child care worker  
16 subsidy pilot program established pursuant to section 2 of this  
17 Act.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
19 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

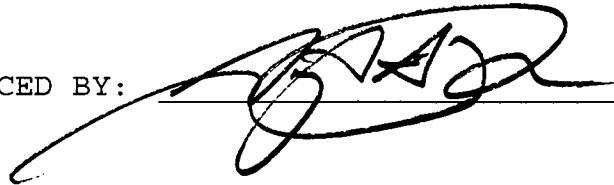


# S.B. NO. 312

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, and  
2 shall repeal on June 30, 2027.

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INTRODUCED BY:



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# S.B. NO. 312

**Report Title:**

Child Care Workers; Subsidies; Pilot Program; Infants; Toddlers; Centers; Department of Human Services; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Human Services to establish and administer a two-year Infant and Toddler Child Care Worker Subsidy Pilot Program. Requires annual reports on the pilot program's development and administration to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

